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the girl who'll set
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How one bully has
almost ruined the sport



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right on **TARGET**

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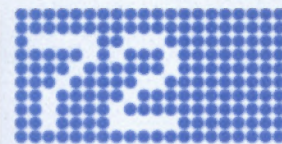
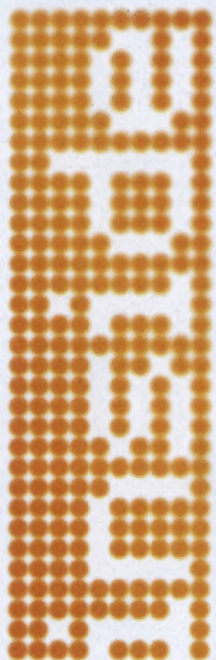
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out of his hands

Shannan Taylor has never had a shot at a world title – but not because he isn't good enough. This is boxing, remember.

[Article by Gregor Salmon]



beemer-boarding

The latest twist to the skateboarding revolution comes from those fiends at BMW, with a price tag in keeping.

[Pictorial]



year zero

Our first season of a 14-team NRL comp is winding up. Time to take stock. Is this a super league?

[Article by Daniel Williams]



the ill-will games

Triathlon should be enjoying its finest hour when it debuts as an Olympic sport in Sydney. But thanks to the antics of its boss, Les McDonald, it's a mess.

[Article by Andrew Kennedy]



flexi-time

At just a few Olympics, a star has emerged in gymnastics to dazzle the crowd and floor the judges. Sydney, get ready for Alina Kabayeva.

[Pictorial]



ready amy? fire!

When the Matildas dressed down for a calendar, Amy Taylor stole the show. Here's why.

[Pictorial by Richard Dillon]

COVER MODEL: AMY TAYLOR.
PHOTOGRAPHER: RICHARD DILLON FOR REP.

STYLIST: SHEREE COMMERFORD.

HAIR AND MAKEUP: KATIE FOR REP.

AMY WEARS BRACE FROM CIBELLA.

SNAKE CHAIN BRACELETS FROM PETER LANG.

SUSIE O'NEILL IMAGE BY SCOTT BARBOUR/ALLSPORT

AMY TAYLOR WEARS MAKEUP BY REVLON.
FOUNDATION: COLORSTAY LITMAKEUP TRUE BEIGE.
CONCEALER: NEW COMPLEXION IVORY BEIGE. POWDER:
NEW COMPLEXION IN SMOKE. BLUSH: NEW COMPLEXION
BLUSHING BARE. EYESHADOW: WET/DRY SHADOW
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BLACK BROWN. MASCARA: LASHFULL WATERPROOF
BLACK. LIPS: LINE & MATTE DUSK.



balls to the wall

The Olyroos have got serious trouble ahead.

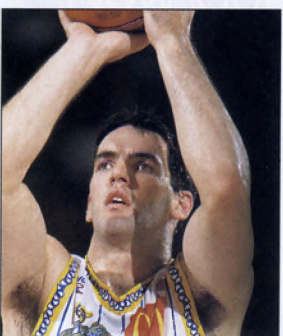
[Article by Robert Galvin]



giants

When the world turns up next month, these are the stars to watch.

[Pictorial]



regimes

Sam Mackinnon's development into a potent Boomer was worth the weights.

[Article by Andrew Webster]

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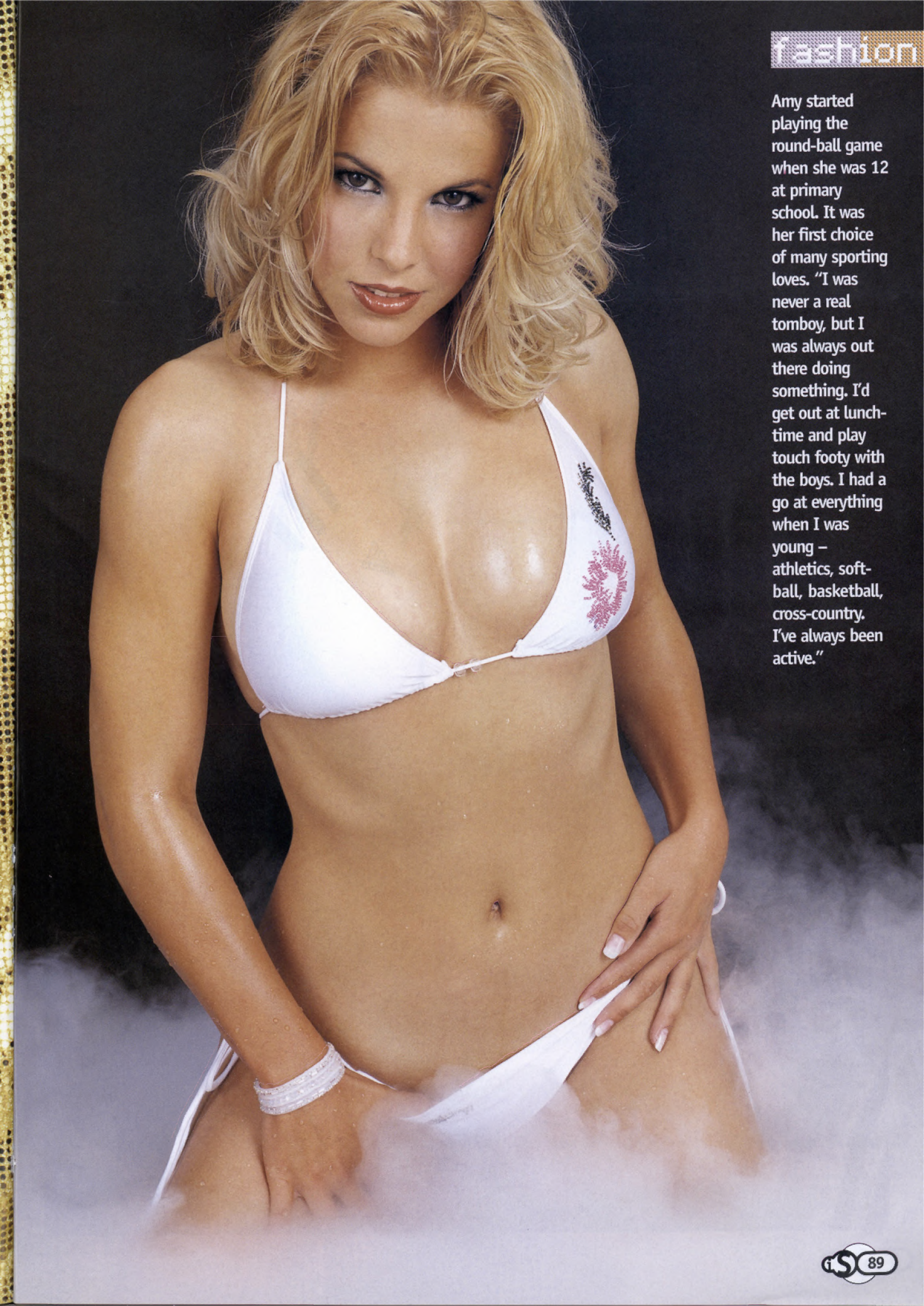
The Matildas, our women soccer stars, have waltzed into the Olympics. Now Amy Taylor is ready to show the world what she can do.

Matildas defender Amy Taylor is playing a waiting game. Waiting to learn if she'll merely be a stand-by player for the women's national soccer team at the Sydney Olympics, or part of the show. At 21, there's plenty of time for her to blow them away if it doesn't happen. Off the field, she's already started. Amy, you'll recall, was the covergirl for the Matildas' bold nude calendar. The interest hasn't stopped since. You're about to see why.

Knickers from Wheels and Dolls Baby, diamante bracelet from Peter Lang, shoes from Dhato.



Bikini from Cibella, snake chain bracelets from Peter Lang. Opposite: Lisa Ho, bikini, bracelet from Peter Lang.



Amy started playing the round-ball game when she was 12 at primary school. It was her first choice of many sporting loves. "I was never a real tomboy, but I was always out there doing something. I'd get out at lunch-time and play touch footy with the boys. I had a go at everything when I was young – athletics, soft-ball, basketball, cross-country. I've always been active."



She made the Australian team when she was 17, and has 17 caps to her name. But when the national team was announced, Amy found herself one of four players on the outer. Frustrating? You bet, but she's prepared to wait. "I'm only a baby, so it's not the end of the world. Initially I cried my eyes out for a few days, but there'll be other chances. It's just unfortunate I could miss out on the big one."

Bikini from Cibella, neck piece from Peter Lang. Opposite: Adidas sports bra from Rebel Sport, briefs from Girl Star.



Footy players have been doing it for years, but there was an uproar when the Matildas got it all off for their provocative calendar, done so to stimulate interest in women's soccer. It worked, with 25,000 more copies sold than expected. By no coincidence, Amy was on the front. "Sex sells, as long as you've got the goods," she says. "We train a lot so we're lucky. Women's sport doesn't get a lot of coverage so we needed to do something to turn heads." Mission accomplished.

Bikini by Cibella, ROC sunglasses. Opposite: Lisa Ho bikini.

A Canberra girl all her life, Amy doesn't allow soccer to control her even if it consumes most of her time. Taking it easy is just as important. "I'm not addicted to soccer. I like to go out for dinner, hang-out with my friends, go roller-blading. Basically, I like to have fun. I'm game enough to have a go at anything." So we've seen.

You can see more of Amy Taylor on our website at www.sportcentral.com.au

Swimsuit from M One 11. Opposite page, clockwise from left: Swimsuit from M One 11; Adidas sports bra from Rebel Sport; Cibella bikini, neckpiece from Peter Lang.

For all stockist details see page 98

Model: Amy Taylor.
Photography: Richard Dillon/REP.
Fashion Direction: Duncan Bruce.
Hair and makeup: Kateri/REP.
Stylist: Sheree Commerford.
Photographer's assistant: Grant Somers.
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